

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 081567 **Date** 13 August 2015

Civic Hall

Request and response in 'blue':

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting information pertaining to Wolverhampton Civic Hall, as a publicly-funded venue owned by Wolverhampton City Council.

Specifically, I am requesting information on all contracts, documents, ticket manifests, ticket distribution charts, ticket allotment summaries, sponsorship and marketing agreements for events held at the venue over the last 12 months. This is to include anything relating to:

- Proportion of tickets which were made available to the public, ticket brokers, sponsors, private organisations and public organisations; *See below.
- The total number of tickets available for every event and how they were sold and / or distributed. This includes any draft distribution sheets and plans that were incorporated in fact or by reference into the final distribution sheets; *See Below.
- Limitations or requirements imposed on the resale of tickets; Please see clause
 x of our current conditions of sale 'Tickets are sold for private use and we
 monitor their resale. If we have reason to believe that tickets are being resold,
 we may invalidate them without compensation and refuse entry to the
 premises.
- Limitations or requirements imposed on the minimum price of resale tickets, including price floors and ceilings; See above.
- Limitations or requirements imposed on the channels, platforms and websites on which tickets could be resold; See above.
- Limitations or requirements imposed on purchasing tickets, including exclusivity agreements; *See below
- Any contracts for exclusive rights of resale; See notes on re-sale.
- Any documents mentioning requirements that ticket brokers commit to reinvesting money earned from ticket resale back into purchasing future tickets from the team; See notes on re-sale.
- Any contracts guaranteeing ticket brokers tickets, whether that guarantee was conditional or unconditional; and – No guaranteed agreements in place.
- Revenue sharing agreements between the venue and third parties. *See below.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

For the purposes of this letter a "ticket broker" is defined as anyone, individually or as a business, who acquired tickets to an event, by any means, for purposes of resale.

Response:

*See below

In response to questions marked (*), we can confirm that following careful consideration, the Council regrets to inform you that it has decided not to disclose this information.

Information you have requested has been withheld from disclosure. The exemption engaged is Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

Section 12 of the FOI exempts Public Authorities from providing information where the estimated cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. Any estimate must be undertaken in accordance with the limits set in fees regulations made under Section 12 (5) of the FOI.

These Fees Regulations (SI 2004/3244 Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations) allow for a refusal where the cost of compliance, for local authorities such as the Council, would exceed £450. As a guide, staff time to identify and extract this information is charged at a rate of £25 per hour.

In summary in order to determine the information you have requested, we would need to manually interrogate each individual record/event and extract information to determine the responses marked (*). This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

If you can narrow down your request the Council will look into the matter again.